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NOTES ON HEBREW MSS. IN THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF CAMBRIDGE.

III.

MS. Add. 426, small quarto. Paper and parchment. The MS., which must have once consisted of at least 155 leaves, is now greatly injured in many places, whilst the leaves after the Nos. 26, 34, 59, 62, 63, 73, 84, 92, 97, 114, 122, 140, 150, are wanting. Each leaf has from 29 to 30 lines, written in Spanish-Rabbinic characters, probably not later than the middle of the 15th century. The MS. contains: —

פ' חכמי נרבונה (as given on the fly-leaf), or שמה לחכמי נרבונה (as marked on the margin of the leaves 2a, 59a, 77a), forming a Commentary and glosses to the Tractate *Moed Katon* of the Babylonian Talmud. It begins with the words משקין בית השלחין בגמרא מוכח כי שלחין הוא שדה גדול כבר והיה רגיל לצאת, and finishes in the middle of a sentence with

The MS. is unique. It is probably the fullest and the most important commentary we possess to this Tractate, and its style and diction remind one very much of that of R. Nissim Gerondi in his *Chidushim*. The name of the author is not given in the MS., but we find him mentioning as his teachers R. Jechiel¹ (25a, 50b, 78a), R. Meir² (155a), and R. Samuel b. Shneur,³ whom he quotes with the words ושמעתי מפי מורי החסיד הר' שמואל בר' שניאור (154b). Our author must then have flourished in the first decade after the middle of the 13th century. Apart from these authorities he quotes,

¹ Probably R. Jechiel of Paris. He mentions him so often that we must accept that R. Jechiel wrote Tossaphot to this Tractate. In p. 155a: זה היה שיטת מורי הר' יחיאל.

² R. Meir of Rothenburg?

³ See Michael, *Or Hachayim*, No. 1212. Zunz, in his *Zur Geschichte und Literatur*, mentions only his brother R. Moses b. Schneor (p. 78).

among others, very frequently R. Isaac b. Mordechai, who wrote Tossaphot to this Tractate by the initials of ריב"ם, or וכתב רבי יב"ם (4b, 77a, 121a, and elsewhere), once ר' יבם כתב בשם ר' אליקים (119a), another time, וכן פירש הר' יוסף (97a).¹ R. Joseph b. Moshe is also quoted as וכן פסק הר' יוסף בר' משה בשם ר' שמואל (51b), or (40a). Probably the writer knew his Tossaphot to this Tractate.² Mention is also made of רבינו נתנאל הקדוש מקינון (151a), and רבי' שמשון בר' שמשון (136b). Of authorities belonging to the Spanish school he quotes Maimonides (81a). The Commentary of R. Abraham b. David of Pasquières to *Moed Katon* he cites very often (24a, 36b, 121a, and elsewhere). Indeed, the main importance of the MS. seems to consist in the fact that it gives us so many fragments of the Novellæ and Commentaries by the "Earlier Authorities" whose works are no longer extant. The author has also some translations of certain difficult words, as p. 47b, לכסכוכי קריעי וקורין לו אנפייר בלע', or 50b, מחלצין כלי של ברזל וקוראין לו טרואלא בלעז.

S. SCHECHTER.

¹ See Zunz, *ibid.*, p. 33, Michael, *ibid.*, No. 1082, and Kohn's *Mordechai b. Hillel*, p. 122.

² See Zunz, *ibid.*, p. 38; Michael, No. 1052; Cp. Brüll, *Jahrb.* VIII. 157.